

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated **December 22, 2008**. Each issue in the Office Action is addressed below.

§103 Rejections

Claims 21-25, 29, 30 and 39-41 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Weber et al. (US 5,759,172) in view of Abele et al. (US 6,010,480). A full account of the rejection is found on page 2 of the Office Action.

Although Applicant disagrees with the rejection, independent claims 21, 29 and 41 have been amended to further distinguish them from the cited reference. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

The application should now be in condition for allowance. Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited. If the Examiner would like to further discuss the case, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

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